Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W

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R 202155Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1830

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CONFIDENTIAL SANTIAGO 0413

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: CI, PFORN XF

SUBJ:CHILEAN-MIDDLE EAST RELATIONS

- 1. IN REGULAR FRIDAY PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 17, UNDERSECY FONMIN COLLADOS MADE CAUTIOUS REPLY TO QUESTION ON POSSIBLE CONFLICT IN MIDDLE EAST. COLLADOS SAID CHILE IS NEUTRAL ON PALESTINE PROBLEM, WANTS ONLY PEACE IN AREA, AND SUPPORTS EFFORTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND UN IN THAT SENSE. SAID ALSO THAT CHILE IS COMPLETELY OPEN TO RECEIVE CREDITS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES, WHICH WOULD BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT, AND EXPECTED THAT OFFICIAL INITIATIVE WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN SOON. SANTIAGO PRESS IN THIS CONTEXT REFERRED TO TRIP TO IRAN OF ECONOMICS COORDINATION MINISTER (SANTIAGO 0205), AND TO HIGH LEVEL ARAB ECONOMIC DELEGATION NOW IN BRAZIL ON TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA.
- 2. COMMENT. AS REPORTED IN OTHER CHANNELS, GOC IS GREATLY INTERESTED IN MIDDLE EAST AS POSSIBLE SOURCE OF ARMS, AND CANNOT HELP BUT BE TEMPTED BY THOUGHT OF PETRODOLLARS IN THIS DIFFICULT YEAR ECONOMICALLY. CHILE'S CONSERVATIVE MILITARY LEADERS HAVE TAKEN PAINS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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REASSURE FAIRLY SIZEABLE AND IMPORTANT JEWISH COMMUNITY OF

THEIR INTEREST IN IT, AND PRESS GAVE GOOD PUBLICITY TO ADVERSE REACTION HERE TOWARD RECENT ANTI-ISRAELI ACTION IN UNESCO. AT SAME TIME GOC IS MINDFUL OF INTERESTS OF IMPORTANT LOCAL ARAB COMMUNITY. GOC NO DOUBT WANTS TO STAY NEUTRAL ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IF IT CAN. POPPER

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Subject: HILEAN-MIDDLE EAST RELATIONS

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